

the newsette

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN COLLEGE



Volume XXVII

July - August - September 1960

No. 1

Two Graduates Receive Degrees At Convocation

The awarding of two bachelors' degrees to local Rhea county teachers, a dedication for new and improved facilities on the campus, and an inspirational message by the Rev. John Dunlap, pastor of Tabernacle Church in Norfolk, Va., were included in the 3:00 p.m. convocation held in the college chapel on Sunday, Sept. 11, opening the thirty-first year of the College.

Mrs. Frances Hogue Cheers and Mrs. Reba Arnold Fitzgerald, of Dayton, who completed requirements in the summer session, received the bachelor's degree in education, cum laude. They have been taking evening courses and summer work to complete their four-year programs begun at Bryan in the early days of the school.

Dr. Mercer led the audience in the prayers of dedication for the improved facilities in the chapel including re-decorating, opera style seats, hymn book racks, new carpeting, and a new Baldwin organ. He included also in the dedication the work of the Bryan Women's Auxiliary in decorating and furnishing the ladies' lounge, and the establishing of Bryan Village with its new married students' apartments.

Following a stirring explanation of

(Continued on page 4)



Mrs. Cheers and Mrs. Fitzgerald



Howard Skinner



Ralph Toliver



Richard Seume

Fall Bible Conference Set For Oct. 9-16

Regional Accreditation Procedure Initiated

As this issue of the **Newsette** reaches its readers, the Preliminary Report which initiates the accreditation cycle of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools will be nearing completion. The accreditation cycle requires fifteen months. This initial report is required by early October. If, in the opinion of the Committee on Admissions of the Commission on Colleges, Bryan is ready for a visiting committee evaluation, approval for such a visitation will be granted at the annual meeting of the Association in December. This visitation will then take place between January and June of 1961. Based upon favorable findings by such an evaluation committee, Bryan could be voted into membership at the December 1961 meeting.

The success of the trustees in recent months in pushing the endowment over the minimum required by the Association standard on financial support was the green signal to move ahead. At this point, Bryan needs additional Ph.D.'s (notably in English and history); but with four of the present fulltime teaching faculty of sixteen holding the doctorate and with five more in progress and with fifteen months to secure additional personnel, it was decided to press for accreditation at this time.

The thirtieth annual Bible conference scheduled for October 9-16 will feature Dr. Richard Seume, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., and the Rev. Ralph Toliver, Bryan alumnus and missionary on furlough from the Philippines, as speakers, and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Skinner of Muskegon, Mich., as musicians.

Dr. Seume is a graduate of Wheaton College and Dallas Theological Seminary and is known as an outstanding conference speaker. Mr. Toliver and his wife were the first Bryan graduates to go to the foreign mission field when they went to China in 1938. Being forced to leave China during their second term under the China Inland Mission, they went to the Philippines where they have completed two terms. The Tolivers with their five children are living in Dayton during their present furlough.

Mr. and Mrs. Skinner are among America's best known evangelistic musicians. They will appear as an instrumental and vocal duo team, and in addition, Mr. Skinner will lead the music.

Three services will be held daily Monday through Friday, with the opening service on the first Sunday night in the Rhea Central High School auditorium. Saturday and Sunday of Bible conference will be devoted to alumni homecoming.

President's Column

The opening days of the new academic year (Bryan's thirty-first) have been characterized by wholesome freshness of Christian commitment to



the Lord for the work of the year lying before us. The newly renovated chapel was completely filled, with chairs in the aisles, for the opening convocation on Sunday, Sept. 11, which is described elsewhere.

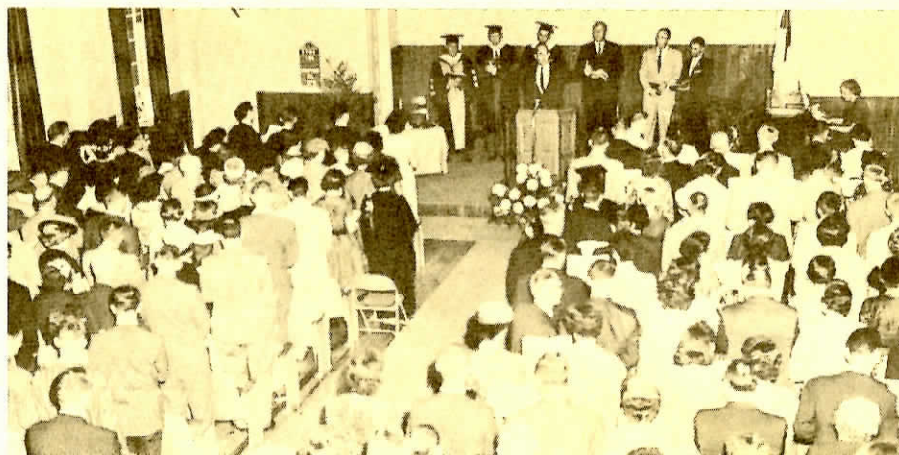
In order that you may catch some of the spirit of our opening, I quote below for you the Declaration which preceded the prayers of dedication of the new organ and other physical improvements. We hope our friends everywhere will really back us in prayer this year, lifting us daily to the throne of grace for needed wisdom to meet every situation.

Declaration

"Dearly beloved, it is meet and right as we learn from the Holy Scriptures that buildings erected for the service of God together with their furnishings should be specially set apart and dedicated for particular uses. We are also taught that from time immemorial the undertaking of an enterprise, and its completion, together with other special events have furnished occasion for Christian people to express publicly their gratitude to God and to renew their commitment to Jesus Christ, the author and finisher of the Christian faith, and to covenant together seeking the blessing of Almighty God upon present and future undertakings. It is for such manifold purposes we now make this declaration.

"Forasmuch as William Jennings Bryan College was established for conducting and perpetuating an institution for the higher education of men and women under auspices distinctly Christian and spiritual, as a testimony to the supreme glory of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to the divine inspiration and infallibility of the Bible, it is therefore fitting and proper that on the occasion of beginning in the providence of God a new academic year, this organ, these seats, and the other physical improvements of this building, together with the new ladies' lounge, and the first units of Bryan Village should be dedicated to the glory of God and for the inherent purposes of each according to the uses of this college.

"It is also fitting and proper that we should publicly acknowledge the



Newly decorated auditorium is filled for opening convocation by the faculty and new and returning students with their parents and friends.

FALL FUND DRIVE SET BY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees, in its third year of successful operation, has planned a fall fund-raising campaign for October 10-15. Last spring the committee adopted as its 1960 project the raising of funds to build a president's house. However, in view of the overall successful financial year just past in raising endow-

ment funds and balancing the budget and the necessity for repeating the successful year in operations, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the administration to channel its funds again this year into the operating budget and to postpone the house project for at least a year. Budget effort this year is to be focused on exceeding current budget gift requirements by a minimum of \$25,000 in order to put the College on a fully current operational basis.

Plans for the fall drive include the "Buy for Bryan" merchants' campaign as in the past two years, a special and advance gifts solicitation, and a general campaign. The public phase of the campaign is designed to end with an open house on the campus on Saturday evening, October 15. This event will coincide with alumni homecoming and the conclusion of the annual Bible conference.

The Advisory Committee consists of some twenty-six Rhea countians who organized in 1958 to serve as a liaison between the local community and the college. An important aspect of their work has been the coordination of local fund-raising in support of the College. This group has been responsible for more than \$30,000 in gifts to the College since it was organized.

The three officers of the Committee, C. P. Swafford, Dayton attorney, Russell V. Stansbury, local businessman, and William Shaver, executive vice president and cashier of the Dayton Bank and Trust Co., received citations of merit in recognition of their personal leadership and the Committee's successful operation. Officers for 1960 are Russell V. Stansbury, chairman, Robert Norris, vice chairman, and Wendell Brown, secretary.

providence of God in blessing this institution this past year in the achieving of the endowment fund goal and the balancing of the budget, and the supplying of daily need. With gratitude, therefore, to a kind Heavenly Father who has signally blessed His servants in these numerous enterprises, we publicly acknowledge at the opening of the thirty-first year our dependence upon God and our belief in and commitment to the gospel of the Lord and only Saviour Jesus Christ and the Christian way of life.

"And as the dedication of the temple is vain without the solemn consecration of the worshippers also, let us now dedicate ourselves anew to the service of God. To Him, we dedicate our souls that they may be renewed after the image of Christ; to Him we dedicate our bodies that they may be fit temples of the Holy Spirit; to Him we dedicate our minds that we may bring every thought into subjection to Christ, and so fulfill the first and great commandment to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. To Him we dedicate our educational labors this year that as students, teachers, and administrators our fruit may tend to the glory of His great name at whose coming in power and majesty to judge the earth every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that He is Lord to the glory of God the Father. Amen and Amen."

ment funds and balancing the budget and the necessity for repeating the successful year in operations, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the administration to channel its funds again this year into the operating budget and to postpone the house project for at least a year. Budget effort this year is to be focused on exceeding current budget gift requirements by a minimum of \$25,000 in order to put the College on a fully current operational basis.

Plans for the fall drive include the "Buy for Bryan" merchants' campaign as in the past two years, a special and advance gifts solicitation, and a general campaign. The public phase of the campaign is designed to end with an open house on the campus on Saturday evening, October 15. This event will coincide with alumni homecoming and the conclusion of the annual Bible conference.

The Advisory Committee consists of some twenty-six Rhea countians who organized in 1958 to serve as a liaison between the local community and the college. An important aspect of their work has been the coordination of local fund-raising in support of the College. This group has been responsible for more than \$30,000 in gifts to the College since it was organized.

The three officers of the Committee, C. P. Swafford, Dayton attorney, Russell V. Stansbury, local businessman, and William Shaver, executive vice president and cashier of the Dayton Bank and Trust Co., received citations of merit in recognition of their personal leadership and the Committee's successful operation. Officers for 1960 are Russell V. Stansbury, chairman, Robert Norris, vice chairman, and Wendell Brown, secretary.

College Pays Tribute To Local Citizens

Bryan College was represented this year at the Rhea Rural Fair in Spring City with a booth exhibiting pictures of college life and featuring the Ad-matic slide projector. Members of the faculty and staff were present at the booth to greet visitors and answer questions during the three-day event.

A brochure entitled, "A Salute to Rhea County by Bryan College" was prepared for distribution at the fair to emphasize the inter-relation between the college and the local community.

Rhea countians have had a major part in building Bryan through the original organization of the institution and through its continuing support as shown in the following quotation from the brochure:

"Bryan College opened its doors to the first student body of 31 Sept. 18, 1930, in the old Rhea County high school building. The plans which had resulted in the establishment of an institution of higher education in Rhea County were set in motion in 1925 at a meeting of the incorporators of the Bryan Memorial University Association held around the dining room table in the home of the late F. E. Robinson, Dayton pharmacist. 'Mr. Earl' Robinson was chairman of the Board of Trustees from the beginning until 1955, when he resigned for reasons of health. He continued active in the affairs of the College until his death in 1957.

"Of the present twenty-five trustees, seven are Rhea countians and six others are Tennesseans . . .

"One of the best things to happen to Bryan in a long time was the organization of the Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees in 1958 to serve as a liaison in welding 'town and gown' together and in raising money in the local area.

"The Committee of twenty-six citizens has successfully conducted two fund-raising campaigns and sponsored two booster banquets, which have brought in more than \$30,000 for the College"

Bryan has helped to build Rhea County by increasing its economic potential and offering quality education to train community leaders. A further quotation from the brochure enlarges on this theme:

"Through its permanent staff of some thirty-five persons representing an annual payroll of \$150,000 and through the annual student registration of over 200 coming from outside Rhea County in the past decade, Bryan constitutes a 'business' of considerable

economic value to Rhea County.

"With majors in eleven different fields leading to the bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees, Bryan has recently strengthened its education department to attract many local teachers by its evening and summer school programs. A check of enrollment in recent years reveals the following increase in the number of Rhea County students being served:

1956-57—4 students; 2 full-time; 2 part-time.

1957-58—13 students; 11 full-time; 2 part-time.

1958-59—47 students; 13 full-time; 34 part-time; 1 graduate.

1959-60—52 students; 22 full-time; 30 part-time; 6 graduates.

"At present there are at least 100 graduates and former students living in Rhea County. These include teachers, ministers, lawyers, secretaries, homemakers, and others.

"In Dayton City School, ten of the sixteen teachers have attended Bryan College and two hold degrees from Bryan. Six of the Rhea Central High School teachers are Bryan graduates and sixteen other former students are serving in the county school system."

ALUMNI PLAN EVENTS FOR FALL HOMECOMING

Alumni of Bryan are encouraged to share the blessings of the fall Bible conference as well as to attend the homecoming sessions on October 14-16 at the end of the conference. A special program is also being planned for prospective students who may come on that week end, so alumni and other friends should take advantage of the opportunity to bring some high school young people for a get-acquainted visit at Bryan.

The annual business meeting will be held on Saturday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. with the homecoming banquet in the college dining hall at 5:00 p.m. On Sunday afternoon the alumni are sponsoring an occupational forum and tea for students, which will be held on the college campus, weather permitting. Other homecoming features include a reception on Friday night and an outdoor breakfast on Saturday morning.

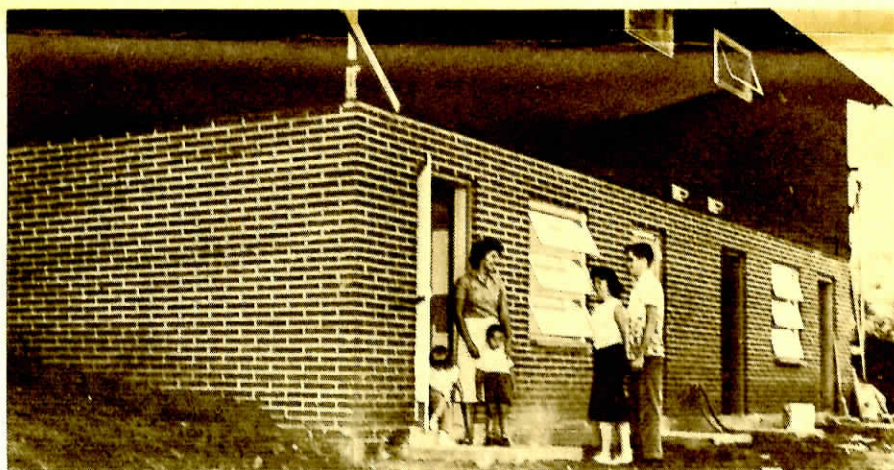
Guests who come for the conference or homecoming are requested to make reservations for meals and lodging by notifying the Alumni Office concerning the number of guests and the length of the stay at Bryan.

New Brick Housing Units Erected For Married Students

Six units built this summer on a plot adjoining the east border of Bryan campus on state highway 30 comprise Bryan Village, the new housing development for married students. The accommodations consist of one and two-bedroom apartments furnished with stove, refrigerator and water heater. The construction of these units is the first step in the liquidation of the old Trailerville area on the college

campus. Two other units in another location have also been built for the use of Bryan students.

All college owned units in the old Trailerville have been disposed of and the remaining private units will be removed at the conclusion of the present school year. A new area for moveable trailers is being provided in the vicinity of the new Bryan Village.



Shown above are Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ed Cowden and Mrs. Arthur White and children at the doorway of one of the new married students housing units which has four two-bedroom apartments. Frank Ed is a grandson of Mrs. E. B. Arnold, trustee of the College, who is developing this new Bryan Village.



Shown above are Miss Zelpha Russell, James Voight, Mrs. Alice Mercer, Fred Donehoo, and Mrs. Mayme Sheddin, new members of the faculty and staff, who are enjoying a "coffee break" at the faculty retreat held at the University of Tennessee geology camp on Johnson's Bluff.

BRYAN GRADUATES EARN DOCTORATES

Having received the Ed.D. Degree from Baylor University on August 26, Jess Lasley '38 becomes the eighth Bryan graduate to earn the doctor's degree. For his doctoral thesis, he chose to write "The History of Bryan College" covering the thirty-year scope of the school's existence. A bound copy of this dissertation will be sent to the College library.



Dr. Lasley has taken a position this fall as head of the education department at Campbellsville Baptist College, in Campbellsville, Ky. He taught last year at Evangel College in Springfield, Mo., after having completed seventeen years of teaching at the Soddy-Daisy High School in his home community. Dr. Lasley holds the M.A. degree from George Peabody College for Teachers.

Other Bryan graduates holding the doctorate are: Beatrice Batson '44, Ph.D. from George Peabody College for Teachers; Lloyd E. Fish '35, Ph.D., University of Tennessee; Howard C. Kee '40, Ph.D., Yale University; William F. Kerr '39, Th.D., Northern Baptist Theological Seminary; Marjorie Miller '49, Ph.D., Columbia University; Henry Moeller '49, Th.D., Central Baptist Theological Seminary; and William L. Wonderly '36, Ph.D., University of Michigan.

Opening Convocation

(Continued from page 1)
the relationship of the individual to Christ in his convocation message, Mr. Dunlap left with his hearers the thought-provoking question, "When will you make Christ pre-eminent in your life?" Mr. Dunlap continued with a series of nightly challenges during the first week of the fall term to provide spiritual emphasis at the beginning of the new school year.

bryan newsette

"Christ Above All"

Theodore C. Mercer Editor
Rebecca M. Peck Managing Editor
Mrs. Lois Meadows .. Circulation Mgr.

Published and Printed Quarterly by
William Jennings Bryan College
Dayton, Tennessee

Entered as second-class matter, March 13, 1937
at the post office at Dayton, Tennessee, under
the Act of August 24, 1912.

Appointments, Advancements Head Faculty-Staff News

Faculty-Staff Appointments

The appointments of Fred Donehoo, dean of men and assistant professor of history, and James Voight, instructor in physical education and athletic director, were announced in the June issue.

Miss Zelpha Russell, who has previously been a member of the staff at Bryan as well as a student, returns as registrar and director of admissions. Mrs. Mercer, who holds the M.A. from George Peabody College for Teachers, is a part-time teacher in English, and Mrs. Sheddin is secretary to the dean and part-time student.

Other faculty appointments, all of whom are part-time, include Joseph C. Herman (B.S., University of Chattanooga), of Chattanooga to teach engineering drawing; Mrs. Emily McMurry Owensby '37 (M.A., University of Tennessee) for evening classes in business subjects; Mrs. Edna Meyer (B.M., Kansas State College), of Pikeville, Tenn., piano and organ instructor; and Robert Zollinger, Red Cross instructor in first aid.

Vance Johnston, of Chicago, Ill., has been appointed to the staff as a management assistant to direct the Lionette (the student center), the bookstore, and the janitorial service.

Mrs. Faith Allen Williamson is a new staff member serving as secretary to the business manager and cashier and Mrs. Harriet Anderson is a part-time assistant to the librarian.

Fulbright Appointment

Mrs. Lucy Sullivan, who has completed seven years on the faculty at Bryan as assistant professor of English, has been selected by the State Department of the United States to receive a Fulbright teaching grant. She will go to Turkey to teach English in a Turkish college.

Advanced Degrees

Two administrators, Dr. Karl Keefer, dean, and Robert G. Adams, business manager, received the master's degree this summer following special studies in their fields.

Dr. Keefer received the master of arts in education from the University of Chattanooga in June and Mr. Adams received the same degree with a major in college business management from the University of Kentucky at the end of the summer term.

Honorary Degree

At the June 7 commencement Miss Alma Rader, senior member of the Bryan faculty, was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Sacred Literature in a surprise ceremony.

Participating in the ceremony were Dr. Lloyd Fish '35, who read the citation representing the alumni association, and Mrs. E. B. Arnold, trustee, who invested Miss Rader with the hood.

Miss Rader came to Bryan in 1941 as a member of the Bible faculty and also served for a time as dean of women. Dr. Rader continues a regular schedule of teaching in the Bible department.



Dr. Alma Rader